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59/02

Attorney Docket: 2002971-0054

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: McDevitt, *et al.*

Examiner:

Serial No.:

Art Unit:

Filing Date: October 16, 2001

Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR PREVENTING MIGRATION
OF SUTURES THROUGH TRANSOSSEOUS TUNNELS

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Please amend the above referenced application to read as follows:

Paragraph beginning at page 1, line 3:

This application is a continuation of U.S. Application 09/234,022, filed January 19, 1999, and issued as U.S. Patent No. 6,302,886, which is a continuation of U.S. Application 08/689,443, filed August 9, 1996, and issued as U.S. Patent No. 5,860,978, which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Application Serial No. 08/163,130, filed December 6, 1993, which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. application serial number 07/765,445, filed September 25, 1991, and issued as U.S. Patent 5,268,001, which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. patent application serial number 07/588,055, filed September 25, 1990, now abandoned. The entire contents of these applications are incorporated herein by reference.

An attachment entitled "Markings to Show Changes Made" is enclosed herewith.

Please charge any additional fees associated with this filing, or apply any credits, to our
Deposit Account No. 03-1721.

Respectfully submitted,



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Dated: October 16, 2001
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